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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re New Divisional Patent Application of)

Yuichi KUBO, et al.)

Based on Application No. PCT/JP2003/013711)

Attn: Designated/Elected

Filed: October 27, 2003)

Office (DO/EO/US)

For: EXPANDING METHOD AND EXPANDING DEVICE)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. In accordance with the PTO notice dated July 11, 2003, waiving the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting copies of each cited U.S. Patent, for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of U.S. Patents are enclosed. However, copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature are submitted under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 7-231003 is referred to on page 2 and 3 of the specification.

Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 7-321070 is referred on page 2 and 3 of the specification.

Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 2001-24010 is referred on page 2 of the specification.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
		Application Number		Not Yet Assigned	
		Filing Date		April 26, 2005	
		First Named Inventor		Yuichi KUBO, et al.	
		Art Unit			
		Examiner Name			
Sheet		of		Attorney Docket Number 740107-185	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		6,344,402	02/05/2002	Sekiya	
		4,744,550	05/17/1988	Oglesbee	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP	4-255243	09/10/1992	Koji Iwamoto		Abstract
		JP	2003-51465	02/21/2003	Satoshi Tateiwa		Abstract
		JP	59-56742	04/13/1984			
		JP	7-231003	08/29/1995	Makoto Arie et al.		Abstract
		JP	7-321070	12/08/1995	Masaichi Morinaga		Abstract
		JP	2001-24010	01/26/2001	Tetsuya Kurosawa		Abstract

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.